

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 14-22 are pending in the present application. Claim 13 was canceled. Claims 8 and 14 were amended. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

I. Allowed Claims and Claim Objections

In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed Claims 1-7 and 13-22. Applicants, through their attorney, express appreciation to the Examiner for this action.

In view of this action of the Examiner, Applicants have amended independent Claim 8 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 13, which has now been canceled. Accordingly, Claim 8, as well as Claims 9-12 respectively depending therefrom, are now considered to patentably distinguish over the art and to be in condition for allowance.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 102, Anticipation

The Examiner rejected Claims 8, 10 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,442,262, to Moss et al. Applicants respectfully consider this rejection to be overcome by the amendments to the claims made herein.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness

The Examiner rejected claims 9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Moss et al. ('262) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,449,351, to Moss et al. Applicants respectfully consider this rejection to be overcome by the amendments to the claims made herein.

IV. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over both of the Moss et al. references, and over any combination thereof, and is now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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